

R U L E S
FOR THE
PRONUNCIATION
OF THE
FRENCH LANGUAGE,
WITH A SHORT VIEW OF THE
ORDER OF ITS CONSTRUCTION.



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The ORDER OF CONSTRUCTING THE FRENCH WORDS is not so much subject to variation as in other Languages, and therefore it may be easily reduced to some general rules; which however are subject to such exceptions, as might easily be brought under some rules, if it were the present design to be so diffuse.

- 1 **I**N case a *vocative* is in the sentence, it has the first place of all.
- 2 The *interrogative* or *relative pronoun*, a *conjunction*, or *adverb* or *interjection* take the second place.
- 3 The *nominative case* with its appendages.
- 4 The *first part* of the *negation*: *ne*.
- 5 The *personal pronouns* in the *dative* or *accusative case*.
- 6 The *relative particles*; *y* and *en*.
- 7 The *verb* in the *simple tense*, or the *auxiliar*, or the words *voici* and *voilà*.
- 8 The *second part* of the *negation* as, *pas*, *point*, *jamais*, *rien*, *gueres*, *ni-ni*, *nul*, *nullement*, *nulle part*, *aucun*, *aucunement*, *pas un*, *personne*, *plus*, *que*, *quelconque*.
- 9 The *second conjunction* or *adverb* which belongs to the *verb*.
- 10 The *participle preterite* of the *compound tense*.
- 11 The *infinitive* which is governed by a preceding *verb finite*.
- 12 The *case* which the verb requires and is either a *genitive* or *dative* or *accusative*, or two of these, with their appendages.
- 13 The *proposition* with the *case* and *appendage* required.

Note. All these articles very seldom occur in a sentence, therefore the rule is, to take such articles as really are obvious, and to omit those which are wanted. But if there be more words of the same kind in the sentence, the ear or the natural construction or connexion, must be the judge which ought to be the first.

1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	
Monsieur puisque vous ne m'avez pas jusqu'ici voulu parler des										
12	13	13				3	5	6	6	7
affaires à Londres avant mon depart; vous m'y en écrirez tant										
		13								
plus souvent après mon retour de Paris.										





R U L E S O F T H E French Pronunciation.

The *French* have six VOWELS, *a, e, i, o, u, y*, and nineteen CONSONANTS, *b, c, d, f, g, h, k, j, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, x, z*.

Pronunciation of the Vowels in general.

The French Vowels have a pronunciation different from that of the English, and all the remarks on it may be divided into the pronunciation of *simple vowels*, *compound vowels*, and *vowels followed by m and n*.

I. SIMPLE VOWELS ARE SIX,

a, e, i, o, u and y.

A, a.

1. A has two sounds; one long and broad, the other short and slender. The long *a* is always marked with the circumflex accent over it, (*â*) *mâtin*, *plâtre*: and almost generally the omission of an *s* is marked by this circumflex, and thus makes the pronunciation of the precedent *a* long, as *emplâtre*.

E, e.

2. E has four different sounds, 1. the *guttural*, 2. *acute*, 3. the *grave*, 4. and the *mute*.

1* E guttural, is pronounced almost like *oe*, but very short and protruded through the throat. This *e* is found

1 † In all the monosyllables of the French language, *me, je, ne, te, &c.*

2 † In the syllables at the beginning of such words as have none of the accents, as, *recevoir, demeurer, dehors.*

A

2* E acute,

e * *E* acute is or should always be marked with an accent; over it as *aîsé*, *aimé*, *rusé*, *géant*, *néant*; its pronunciation is not found in English, and must be learned therefore in a particular manner. It is found,

1 † At the end of some substantives and participles passive of both numbers, as *lancé*, *lancés*, *amitié*, *amitiés*, *forcé*, *aîsé*, and their derivata, as *forcément*, *aîsément*.

2 † In the terminations *er ier*, *ers*, (when the *r* is not founded) *ied*, *ieds ex*, as *aimer*, *etrier*, *barbier*, *volontiers*, *pied*, *je m'affieds*, *cherchez*, and in the conjunction *et*.

3 † In the first syllables of words beginning with *é dé*, *pré*, *tré*, as *éclat*, *dépit*, *préjugé*, *trépié*.

4 † In the *e* before *rer* in the infinitive in *erer* as *digérer*, *référer*, *réitérer*, *régénérer*.

5 † In *re* at the beginning of words wherein it denotes neither reduplication of action nor reiteration, as *résolution*, *réserver*, *république*, *refuté*, *recipé*.

Note. There are words which have a different signification, according as *dé* and *re* is marked with an accent or not, as,
répondre, to answer. *repondre*, to lay eggs again.

répartir, to divide *repartir* to reply or go back.

dégouter to make loath. *degouter*, to drip off.

3* *E* grave, is pronounced almost like the English *a* in *mare*, *dare*, *share*, or *ai* in *air*, *hair*.

1 † It is found at the beginning of a syllable before a consonant, as, *esprit*, *épaule*, *épars*, *épee*, *épine*, especially in those words, which have an *s* after the *e*, or have it dropt in the new manner of writing being derived from words wherein the *s* originally was.

2 † It is to be met with, in the final terminations *er ers* (when the *r* is founded) *erd*, *erds*, *ert*, *et*, *ets*, as *amer*, *belveder*, *cancer*, *cuiller*, *leger*, *bier*, *enfer*, *hiver*, *mer*, *vers*, *verd*, *verds*, *concert*, *mets*, *je promets*.

3 4 It is found in the penultima when the last syllable terminates in *e* mute, as *je mene*, *tu meles*, *ilcede*, *elles celebrent*, *supreme*, *noblesse*, *maitresse*.

4 † In the middle of a syllable between two consonants, *pèrmis*, *lèrne*, *concèrne*.

- 4 * *E* mute is quite dropt in the pronunciation.
- 1 † In the future and conditional tenses of the verbs, as *je serai, je ferai, il aimeroit, tu seras, nous parlerons, vous dépenserez, ils suppleroient.*
 - 2 † In the words where it must be inserted after *g* before *a* and *o* to give to the *g* the sound which it commonly has before *e* and *i*, as *pigeon, jugeons, mangeons, changea, mangea, changeable, &c.*
 - 3 † In the penultima of substantives ending in *té* and *ment* as *impureté, contentement* the adverbs in *ment*, as *habillement, amplement, secretement, pauvreté.*
Note. Except *agrément, supplément, élément, véhément, aveuglement, commodément, communément, confusément, expressément, impunément, profondément.*
 - 2 † In the penultima of the infinitives in *eter, eller* *emer, ener, eser, etter, enir*, as *celer, quereller, semer, mener, peser, jeter, tenir.*
Note. Excepted are all such words, as have a grave or circumflex for the omission of an *s*; and those which are long in the latin words from which they are derived. *S'entêter, répéter, fouetter.*
 - 5 † In the penultima before the syllables *eur*, and *tier*, as *sèmeur, crocheteur, pelletier.*
 - 6 † In the syllable *re* signifying a repetition or duplication of action *redire, refaire, remettre.*
Obs. Excepted
 * When one *e* or other vowel is omitted before an *e* or an *b* not sounded, after *re*, as *récrire réunir, réhabituer.*
 ** When the word *re* is a mark of reiteration, but its omission would either make it no French, or at least not in the same sense; *répéter, réfléchir.*
 - 7 † In *re* followed by *ss* as *ressembler.*
 - 8 † In the words of more than one syllable, at the end, *l'homme, la femme, les ceremonies, je juge, je loge.*
 - 9 † In the demonstrative pronouns as *ce, ceci, cela, celui* and the compounds with it *cependant, cet, cette.*
 - 10 † In the third persons of the plural of the verbs terminated in *ent*, as *ils aiment ils parlent, ils reçoivent, ils viennent, ils courent, ils préparent.*

11 † In

11 † In the following words and their derivata in the penultima and anti-penultima, as *arlequin, arsenal, arsenic, beni, caqueter, chaperon, chenil, chenille, chenel, chemin, cheville, cheminée, chemise, fenêtre, fenil, fenouil, forgeron, genou, guenon, grenouille, hallebarde, hameçon, hanneton, boqueton, levain, à la St. Menoux, neveu, passe-tems, rebelle, retour, secourir, taffetas*.

Note. After the monosyllables before a word beginning with a vowel, or *h* not sounded, *e* is dropt and supplied by an apostrophe; as *l'emeraude qu'on m'avoit volé, l'homme qu'elle m'avoit envoyé, j'aime, mais elle ne m'aime pas je n'aime pas mais jel'ai dit. N'avez vous pas vu, l'amour qu'elle ne t'a pas démontré*: the *e* in *grande* is sometimes dropt even in a consonant, but very improperly put with an apostrophe.

I, i.

- 3 I has the sound of the English *I* in *fit merit, rid*.

O, o.

- 4 O has two sounds, one short and slender as *cotillon*; the other long and broad, as *côte, ôter, rôtir* especially when the *o* has a circumflex from the *s* dropt after the *o*; as in the relative pronouns *le nôtre, le vôtre*, but in the adjective pronouns it is short as *notre livre, votre main*.

U, u.

- 5 U has a peculiar sound which is not found in the English, and must be learned the more carefully, the more different the English *u* is from the French.

1* U must be pronounced with a circular opening of the lips, as *une, mute, subit*.

2* U before *m* and *n* in French words, like *oe* as *un, parfum, chacun*.

3* U before *m* and *n* in Latin words like *o*, as *dictum, factum, factotum, donner du galbanum*.

Y, y.

- 6 Y has the sound like French *i*: it is employed

1* In the relative pronoun *y*, and when it is an adverb.

2* In the beginning of the words *yeux* and *yeuse*.

4* In the middle of some words where it stands for two *i*'s, as *je paye, je nettoye, pays, moyen royal*.

3* In some words where it stands by *use*, as *ayeul, bayonette, cayer, ayant, cayenne, bayonne, bayard bayeux &c.*

II. COMPOUND

II. COMPOUND VOWELS.

1. Of one sound.

Æ; ai; ay; ao; au; ea; eai; eau; ei; eo; eu; oe; oeu; oi; ou; ui; uei.

General rule. All those compound vowels of one sound, have only one sound, except when upon one of the vowels stand two points; or an accent over the first vowel, as *déisme, météore, géant, géographie, haïr, naïf.*

1 *Æ* is pronounced like the English *a* in *can*, as *Caen, Saen*, provided the *n* have a nasal sound.

2 *Ai, ay*

1* Like *è*, or English *ay*, in the word *may*, as *jamais, traitre, vray, essay, braire, delay.*

2* Like *é* at the end of verbs, as *j'ai, je portai, je serai.*

3 *Ao,*

1* Like *a* in *can*, in the words, *Craon, paon, faon, Laon*, (name of a town)

2* Like *o*, in *Saone, taon, aoriste, Aoste, Laon* (P. N. of a Saint), *Laone* (a village in Burgundy).

Note. In the word *Aout* it sounds like the English *oo*.

4 *Au, eau.*

1* Is long in the words, *eau, au*, and all those which end in *d, t, or x*, as *chaud, défaut, chaux.*

2* It is always short at the end, and sometimes at the beginning of words, as *audace.* Except those words which had formerly an *l* behind the *au*, which according to the new orthography is dropt, as *aucun, baudrier, faucher, faucheur*, where it is long.

3* *E'au* with an accent upon *é* has two sounds, *fléau, féaux, Despréaux.*

5 *Ea* like *a* in the French verbs after *g*, as *mangea, jugea, gagea.*

6 *Eai* like the English *ai* in *hair*: It is found in the verbs after *g*, *je mangeai, jugeai*, and in the word *geai*.

7 *Ei, ey* is sounded

1* Like *è* in *reine, peine, veine.*

2* Like *é* in *enseigner, seigneur, peignez, peintre,*

3* *Reitre* is pronounced as *ritre* in English.

8 *Eo* is pronounced like *o* in the verbs after *g*, as *mangeons, jugeons, gageons*, and in the words, *asseoir, George, geolier.*

9 *Eu, oeu* is sounded

1* Like *oe*, as *bleu, demeure, leurs, heure, coeur, soeur.*

2* Like a French *u*.

1† In the preterite tense and participle preterite and their derivata, *j'eus, j'eusse, ven, reçu.*

2† In

- 2† In the verbal nouns ending in *eure*, as *bleffure*, *ga-geure*.
- 3† In some particular words and P. N. as *Europe*, *Eusèbe*, *Eustache*, *Euterpe*, *Eutichés*, *Eutrope*, *nous bevons*, *eu*, *rheume*, *cheute*.
- Note, in most of these words the *e* is now omitted, as, *bleffure*, *chûte*, *rhûme*, *bûvons*.
- 10 *Oe* is pronounced like *é* and even spelt so, as *Economie*, *économiser*. Except in proper names derived from the Greek
- 11 *Oi*, *oy* is pronounced like *è*
- 1* In the imperfect and conditional tenses of the verbs, *j'aimois*, *tu serois*, *il feroit*.
- 2* In the verbs in *oire* and *oitre*, as *croire*, *connoître*, *croître* *je dechois*, *paroître*
- 3* In the particular words, *adroit*, *avoine*, *droit* (straight) *endroit*, *étroit*, *foible*, *roide*, *harnois*, *monnoye*, and their derivatives.
- 4* In these names of Countries, *Anglois*, *François*, *Arragonois*, *Boulonnois*, *Bourbonnois*, *Ecossois*, *Irlandois*, *Hollandois*, *Lionnois*, *Milanois*, *Béarnois*, *Orléanois*, *Piemontois*, *Polonois*, *Nivernois*, *Soissonnois*, *Ferrarois*, *Zelandois*.
- Note. In all the other cases and especially the words *soit*, and *François*, (Francis) *droit*, (law right) it is pronounced like *o-è*; except, in *poignée*, *poignet*, *poignard*, where it has the sound of *o*
- Note, *Oient* in the third person of the verbs, sounds like the grave *è*, without pronouncing either *n* or *t*.
- 12 *Ou* is sounded like the English in *should*, but longer and rather like *oo*, as *poule*, *coude*, *moule*, *foule*.
- 13 *Ui* is pronounced like *i* in *vuide*, *vuidier*, *buisson*.
- 14 *Uei*, *eui*, is pronounced like the French *eu* in *bleu*, as *cueillir*, *feuille*.

II. COMPOUND VOWELS OF TWO SOUNDS.

Ia, *ie*, *iai*, *iau*, *ieu*, *iou*, these compound vowels keep altogether two sounds, one of the vowels, or compound vowels at the end and the other of the *i* at the beginning of the syllable which is to be pronounced like the English *y* before *a*, *e*, *o*, *ea*, and *ou* as in *yard*, *ye*, *tyoke*, *yea*, *youth*, as *diable*, *fiacre*, *altiers*, *ciel*, *nous portions*, *plusieurs*, *dieu*, *yeux*, *liai*, *niai*, *riai*, *niais*, *il lioit*, *rioit*, *je niois*, *miauler*, *miaulement*, *la Cioutat*.

Oa

Oa has the two sounds of *o* and *a* in the words *coadjuteur*, *coactif*, *retroactif*, *cloaque*, *croasser*.

Oë is pronounced with two sounds, but so that the *ë* sounds like *è*, as *poëme*, *poële*, *moëlle*, *troëne*.

Oy, *oi*, is sounded like *oë* in all words, except those which are excepted in the rule of the compound vowels of one sound; *droit* (lâw) *droit*, *noyer*, *je reçois*, *temoigner*, *joindre*, *moi*, *toi*, *soimême*, *soit*, *miroir*, *joye*, *joye*, *asseoir*.

Oo, each of these two *o* has its sound, in the word *cooperer* and its derivatives.

Oua, *oue* is pronounced like *w*, in the words *ouate*, *pouacre*, *couenne*, *ouaille*, *fouet*, *couette*, *ouest*; in all other words these vowels make up two syllables, as *brouette*, *louage*.

Oui and *ouy* is only a compound vowel in one syllable in these two words, *oui*, (yes) and *bouis*; in all other words it makes two syllables as *ouï*, *fouï*, *louis*.

Ué sounds both it's vowels, as *huée*.

Ui or *uy* is pronounced very like the word (wheel) in *huile*, *tuile*, *je suis*, *essuyer*, *puis*.

III. VOWELS FOLLOWED BY M AND N.

The vowels followed by *m* or *n* when another consonant is behind the *m* or *n* and at the end of words are always pronounced with a nasal sound.

Except,

- 1 When *m* or *n* are put between two vowels, as *amener*, *émeraude*;
- 2 When *m* or *n* are followed by another *m* or *n*, as *homme*, *année*, *personne*, *calomnie*, *insomnie*;
- 3 In foreign names and words as *Amen*, *Amsterdam*, *Hymen*, *Agamemnon*, *m* and *n* keep their natural sounds.
- 4 In the word *convent*, *n* in the first syllable is always dropt and pronounced like *couvent*.

E followed by *m* or *n* in the same syllable is pronounced like *a*, *empereur*, *entendre*, *femme*, *renni*, *prens*, *prudent*, *kennir*, *ennui*.

Exc. 1. When *en* is preceded by *e*, *i* or *y* as *chaldéen*, *bien*, *moyen*, it keeps the sound of *e*; however *e* is sounded like *a*

- 1* In the words derived from the Latin in *iens* *orient*, *patient*, *patience*, *torrent*.
- 2* In the peculiar words *Européen*, *a bon escient*, *fayence*, *Mayence*, *siente*.

- 2 *En* keeps its sound when followed by *ne* as *ennemi*, *prenne*; however it is pronounced like *a* in *solemn*, and its derivatives, so as in *nenni*, *bennir*, *ennui*, and their derivatives.
- 3 In foreign words, as *Agamemnon*, *item*, *examen*, *pentagonal*, *dilemme*, *sal gemme*, *pennage*, *pennon*, *désenné*.

PRONUNCIATION OF THE CONSONANTS.

1 B. b.

- B** In general has the Sound of an English B; however
- 1 *b* before *s* and *t* sounds like *p*, as *observer*, *obtenir*.
 - 2 *bb* is pronounced like a single *b*. Except in the words *abbé*, *abbaïsser*, *abbatre* and their derivatives, and in all foreign names as *Barabbas*.
 - 3 *b* at the end of words is not sounded, except in *radoub*.

2 C. c.

C before *a*, *o*, *u* and the consonants sounds like the English *k* as, *car*, *cœur*, *cû*.

c before *e*, *i*, *y*, sounds like *s*, as *ceci*, *Cypre*.

ç with a cedille sounds like *s* even before *a*, *u*, *o*, (this ç the French have adopted from the Spaniards) as, *ça*, *façon*, *reçu*.

- 1 *c* is pronounced in some words before *a*, *o*, *u*, and the consonants like *g* (in the English word *give*) as *canif*, *second*, *difficulté*, *cicogne*, *claudé*, *secret*.
- 2 *c* before *t* is not sounded in the words *climacrière*, *écclique*, *succinct*, *respect*, *object*, *contract*, but *contracter*, sounds its *c* and *t*.
- 3 *c* before another *c* followed by *a*, *o*, *u*, or even a consonant sounds like a single *k* as *accabler*, *accoler*, *accueillir*, *accumuler*, *acclamation*.
- 4 *c* before another *c* followed by *e*, *i* or *y* is sounded like *k* and *s*, as *accélérer*, *accession*, *accident*.
- 5 *c* at the end of words is commonly sounded like *k*, as *avec*, *bec*, *porc*, *lac*, *roc*, *fac*, *donc*, at the beginning of a sentence in the phrases, *croc-en-jambe*, *porc-épic*.

Except

- 1* In the words in *nc*, as *blanc*, *franc*, *donc*; where it is dropt except before a vowel.
- 2* It is sounded in *clerc*, *marc*, *bec-jaune*, *croc*, but not

not in, *almanac*, *arsenic*, *arsenat*, *broc*, *cotignac*,
épïc, *fic*, *estomac*, *tabac*.

Ch sounds like *sh*, as *chat*, *cherir*, *chifre*, *chimie*, *Michel*,
archi, in its compounds, *catechèse*.

Exc. 1. In all foreign, especially Hebrew names and words,
ch sounds like *k* as *Achab*, *Alchimie*, *Cham*, *Catechu-*
mene.

2 *Cypre* signifies the Isle of *Cyprus*, but only in respect to an-
cient history. In the modern it is called *Chypre*, *vin de*
Chypre.

3 *Ch* sounds almost like *g*, in *revenge*, *acheter*.

3 D. d.

D is not founded at the end of words.

Exc. 1. In *Sud* and the foreign words, *Ephod*, *David* &c.

2 at the end of words when the following word begins
with a vowel, where the *d* sounds like *t*, as *quand-on a*
dit, *prend-elle*, *grand-homme*, *de fond-en comble*.

4 F. f.

F is founded at the end of words, *chef*, *soif*, *bref*, *cerf*, *chetif*.
Except in the words *baillif*, *apprentif*, *cléf*, *boeuf*, *nerf*, *oeuf*,
neuf, (new).

F in the word *neuf* (nine), before a vowel, or *h* is not founded,
and if it is not immediately before a noun, it always sounds like
v, as *neuf écus*, *neuf-heures*, *neus étions neuf*.

5 G. g.

G before *a*, *o*, *u*, and the consonants like *g* in *give*, as,
garde, *gunfle*, *aigu*, *glace*, *glouglou*, *glu*.

G before *e*, *i*, *y*, *ea*, *eo*, *eu*, like *j* as *manger*, *ranger*, *git*, *regit*,
il jugea, *gageons*, *gageure*.

Gu before another vowel sounds like the English *ghee*, as
guerir, *guider*, *fatigue*, *vogue*, *figue*.

G is not founded in *Magdelaine*, *sang-sue*, *pregnoscic*, *sang*,
doigt, *legs*, *vingt*, *long*; except when a vowel follows *sang*
et eau, *long-espace*, *vingt-années*.

Gn has a liquid or nasal sound, as *compagnon*, *enseigner*, *igno-*
rer; except in Greek names as, *Gnide*, *Magnésie*.

6 H. h.

H is not founded in all words derived from Latin, but it is
pronounced in all such words as are merely French. Except.

1 *h* is

1 *b* is founded in *haste*, *beros*, (but not in *héroïne*, *héroïque*)
hâle, *halener*, *bennir*, *barpie*, *bergne* or *bernie*, *baleter*,
bareng, *hesiter*.

2 *b* is not founded in *bermine*, *bermite*, *buit*, *buitre*, *buile*,
buis, *buissier*, *bièble*.

Pb, sounds like the English, as *Philosophie*.

Tb sounds like a simple *t*, as *cathete*, *hypothese*, *these*, *paren-
these*.

Ab, *eb*, *ob*, are founded as if *b* was the first letter.

7 J. j.

J, has the sound of *j* in the English words *pleasure*, *leisure*,
as, *jamais*, *jadis*, *jafer*.

8 K. k.

K is only used in the words *kyrielle des injures* and *kyrie éléison*,
and the foreign words as *Stockholm*.

9 L. l.

L is not founded in *fil*, *quelque*, *quelquefois*, *quelqu'un*. Ex-
cept in *quelconque*.

L at the end of words is founded as *fil*, *mal*, *arsenal*, *rural*, *oval*,
sel. Except

1 *L* is not founded, after *i* in these words, *avril*, *baril*,
chenil, *fusil*, *coutil*, *dusil*, *fil d'archal*, *fraisil*, *gril*, *morsil*,
gentil, *nombril*, *outil*, *perfil*, *sourcil*.

2 in the pronoun *il* when put after the verbs, even before
a vowel, and in the plural *ils* as *parle-t'il encore*, *dit-il*,
ils ont fait, but it is pronounced if put before the verbs
as *il a dit* and in the word *ainsi soit-il*.

3 after *o* and *u* in *col*, *fol*, *mol*, *licol*, *sol*, *soldoyer*, *ayeuls*,
cul, *pouls*, *soul*, *Toul*, *Arnauld*, *Boursault*.

Ll between two vowels and even after *i* keeps the sound of
one *l* especially in words derived from Latin, as *imbecille*, *mille*,
vill, *anguille*, *tranquille*, *mollir*, *salle*, *argille*, *il distille*, *Gillies*,
Sewille.

Ll preceded by *i*, in the middle of words has the sound of.
P ye, as *fil*, *fillon*, *s'habiller*, *ferrailler*.

L has the same sound at the end of words, if preceded by *i*,
or *ai*, *ei*, *eui*, *cui*, as *babil*, *Brésil*, *grésil*, *mil*, *peril*, *soleil*, *deuil*,
feneuil, *travail*.

(11)

10 M. m.

M before a consonant or at the end of words, takes the nasal sound of *n* as *comprendre*, *nom*, *prompt*.

M is not nasal 1 when *om* is followed by another *m*, as *commander*. 2 if followed by *n*, it sounds like a single *n*, as *damner*, *selemuel*, *automne*, *colonne*.

11 N. n.

N is always founded at the end of words with a nasal sound, and before a consonant as *entendre*, *non*, *un bassin plein de sang*.

Exc. 1. When *n* is followed by another *n*, or in the syllable in beginning a word, and followed by a vowel, as *ennemi*, *incui*, *inattention*.

2. **N** at the end of words when the next word begins with a vowel, or *h* not aspirated keeps its natural sound, as *un an*, *un homme*.

12 P. p.

P is generally founded in all words.

It is not founded in *compte*, and its derivata; in *pseaume*, *psalmiste*, *baptême*, *baptistère*, *baptiser*, *baptiste*, *sept*, *corps*, *prompt*, *exempt*, *dompter*, *temps*, *ptisane*, however it is founded in *psalmodie*, *psalmodier*, *baptismal*, *septante*, *septuagenaire*, *sculpteur*, *septuagesime*, *exemption*, *sculpture*, *sculpter*, *septembre*.

P at the end of words is not founded as, *drap*, *loup*, *camp*.

Exc. In *gap*, *cap*, *julep*, *rapt*, *relaps*, *sep* and in *trop* and *beaucoup* before a word beginning with a vowel, as *trop aimé*, *beaucoup affligé*.

13 Q. q.

Q sounds like *k* as *quatre*, *quelqu'un*, *qui*.

Except in all words derived from Latin, and the foreign languages as *aquatique*, *equilateral*, *equestre*, *equation*, *quadrature*, *quadragesimal*, *quadruple*, *quinquagenaire*, *quaker*, but not in *quint* as *Quinte-Curce*, *Charles-quint*, *Sixte-quint*, *Henri-quint*.

Q sounds like *gu* in *souquenille*

Q at the end of words sounds like *k*, as *coq*, *cing*, except in *coq d'inde*; and in *cing soldats*, *cing livres*.

14 R. r.

R is not founded in the pronouns *possessive adjective* as *notre*,
votre

votre autre maison, in *quatre*, in the first syllable of *mercredi*, and in *volontiers*.

*E*tra and the pronouns *possessive relative*, *le vôtre*, *le vôtre*, and *autrement*, are pronounced as if the *e* was before the *r*, as *eter*, *noter*, *voter*, &c.

R at the end of words is commonly founded, as *cuir*, *bier*, *sœur*, *devoir*, *divers*, *fleur*.

Exc. 1. In the infinitives in *er*, *ir*, as *porter*, *finir*, *agir*, *sentir*, *tenir*.

2 in the substantives of more syllables in *er*, *ir*, *oir*, as *berger*, *premier*, *loisir*, *plaisir*, *mouchoir*, *entonnoir*, and in *monseigneur* and *messieurs*.

Obs. That *er* and *ir* is founded in *jupiter*, *lucifer*, *altier*, *amer*, *belveder*, *cancer*, *desir*, *enfer*, *magister*, *martir*, *nadir*, *saphir*, *soupir*, *verker*, *vifir*, *zephir*, *frater*, *-biver*, *laser* and *leger* (but not in *chevaux legers*.)

15 S. s.

S has two sounds ; one hissing ; (like *flut*)

1 In the begining of words and their compounds, as *salut*, *servir*, *monosyllabe*, *présentir*.

2 Before and after a consonant as *esprit*, *sterile*, *penser*, *persil*.

3 In all compound words between two vowels *turnesol*, *ressembler*, *resentir*, *préséance*.

Exc. *Alsace*, *balsame*, *transaction*.

S has another soft sound of *z*, between two vowels and in all cases which are not excepted above, *oser*, *baïser*.

Exc. *Resurrection*, *présumer*, *resister*, *reserver*, because their simples are not in use.

S is not founded in *jurisdiction* and *schisme*

S at the end of words is not founded ; very often even not before a vowel.

Exc. 1. At the end of foreign words and proper names it is founded, as *Ceres*, *Minos*, *Gil-Blas*, *Venus*, *Est*, *Ouest*, *bis*, *gratis*, *Mars* (God of war) but not in *Mars* (the month of March).

2 In the words, as, *asperges*, *pis*, *pus*, *relaps*, *vis* (a screw) *zest*, *ours*.

3 At the end of pronouns, articles, and prepositions, before a vowel and the imperatives before *en*, and *y*. *Les enfans*, *nous aimons*, *viens-y*, *faites-en*, *dès-aujourd'hui*.

Obs. But it is not founded after *nous* and *vous*, in imperative phrases, nor in *les*, as *donnez-les à votre sœur*.

- 4 In the first syllable of these words *vis à vis*, *de tems en tems*, *de pis-en-pis*, *pas-à-pas*, *de plus-en plus*.
- 5 In *puisque* and *lorsque*, (but not in *puis* and *lors*) and at the end of adjectives plural, before their substantives beginning with a vowel, as *les grands esprits*, *les grands hommes*.

16 T. t.

T before i if followed by another vowel is founded like e before e and i, as *a-tion*, *portion*, *prophétie*, *initier*, *balbutier*, *minutie*, *ineptie*, *primatie*, *aristocratie*.

Exc. 1. T keeps its natural sound in the verbs and the nouns derived from them as *chatier*, *nousportions*, *la partie*, *la sortie*.

2 Before *en*; *je tiens*, *maintien*, *soutien*.

3 In the words in *tie*, *tier*, *tière*, *tième*; and *tien* as *amitié*, *portier*, *matière*, *septième*, *chrétien*, but not in *Egyptiens*, and *Dioclétien*.

4 Ti keeps its natural sound after *x* and *s* as *bastion*, *mixture*, *digestion*, *combustion*, *question*, and the names *Ephestion* and *Sebastien*.

T is not founded in *asthme*, *asthmatique*.

T at the end of words is founded.

1 In the following words *brut*, *dot*, *exact*, *échec et mat*, *fat*, *ésti*, *ouest*, *correct*, *direct*, *un fait*, *pact*, *rapt*, *rit*, *sot*, *zenith*, *zest*, *chût*.

2 In *sept*, *huit*, and *vingt* before a vowel, or in the compounds of *vingt*, as *vingt et un*, *vingt-deux*, *vingt-quatre*, but not in *quatre-vingt-un*, and the following numerals.

3 In the Latin words *un fiat*, *un debet*.

4 It is founded in *il faut*, *il plaît*, *prêt*, *cent*, *savant*, and others when followed by a vowel, as *il faut-y aller*, *s'il plaît à Dieu*, *je suis prêt à faire*, *savant esprit*, *cent ecus*, *mot-à-mot*.

5 T is founded when put behind the verbs and between the vowels in question, as *donne-t-on*? *parle-t-elle*? *y a-t-il*?

T is not founded.

1 At the end of verbs and nouns ending in *nt*, as *ils parlent*, *elles donnoient*, *ils feroient*, *ils feroient*, *bâtiment*, *enfant*, *pont*, *une dent*, *cent*.

2 In *contract*; but it is founded in *contracter*.

3 In the terminations *et*, as *met*, *placet*, *net*.

4 In the nouns ending in *t*, neither in the singular nor the plural as, *un habit*, *chat*, *rat*, *plat*, *rats*, *chats*, *habits*, *des mots plats*.

V is pronounced by the approximation of the upper teeth towards the under lip, *il vaut, valoir.*

X sounds like *cs.*

- 1 Before a consonant, as *extrait, expert.*
- 2 In foreign words and at the beginning of words, as *Xenophon, Xavier, axiome.*

X sounds as *gz* between two vowels, provided it is not a word derived from Greek, as *exaucer, exiger, exil*: *Exarque* is the only Greek word in which *x* sounds like *gz*.

Obs. That *maxime, fixer, fluxion, flexibilité*, keep the sound of *cs.*

X sounds like *fs* in *soixante, Xaintes, Bruxelles, lexique, Auxonne, Auxerre, Xerxes, St. Maixent, Xaintonge.*

X sounds like *Z* in *deuxième, dizaine, dixième, fixième, fixain.*

X at the end of words sounds

- 1 Like *z* at the end of the words *fix* and *dix* before vowels and at the end of a sentence, and in the words *dix-sept, dix-huit, dix-neuf, six écus, dix anges, j'en aidix, les six que vous avez.*
- 2 Like *cs* in *lynx, perplex, prefix, Sphinx, Storax, Styx.*

Z sounds like *fs* at the end of foreign names as *Booz, Foz, Henriquez, Rhodex, Senex, Olivarez, Suarez, Sanchez.*

Z is not sounded at the end of other words as *affez-aimable, des nez inflammex, des prez agréables.* Except *Chou-elle.*

F I N I S.

